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TECHNIQUES OF APPROACHING THE POLITICAL ISSUES IN TELEVISION INVESTIGATIVE PROGRAMS: AN ANALYTICAL STUDY

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Abstract

The aim of this paper is to determine the methods of approaching the political issues in television investigative programs. It is based on the survey method and an analysis the content of a sample of the TV investigative show (The hidden is more immense) aired on Al Jazeera catellite channel. The study yields a number of results, the most important of which are: The experts category has ranked first among the sources on which these programs depend and at a percentage of (41.9%). The highest proportion of the meanings and ideas included in the program's episodes was for those related to violence, which reached a rate of (47.4%) while those pertaining to international terrorism reached (25%). The results showed a clear bias towards one side at the expense of the other in presenting the political issues. In light of the findings of this study, I put forward a series of recommendations. The most important of these can be summarised as follows: First, maximising the effectiveness of the TV investigative programs, by increasing the time space allocated to them. Secondly, supporting the crews of these programs financially and morally, as well as allowing them to participate in training courses organized by Arab and international TV networks specialized in the field of investigative journalism. The content of these programs must be kept out of alignment and imbalance in the presentation of information.

Key words: Television investigative programs, The hidden is more immense program, Al-Jazeera.

1. The methodological framework of the study

1.1. The issue:

The issue addressed in this study stems from the prevailing trend in the media, whether international or Arab, toward supporting the practice of investigative journalism. Although there are some serious attempts by

some Arab television channels to present this kind of programs, the Arab media did not attach enough importance to this form of television programs. Also, the rules and frameworks governing the handling of topics in these programs were not defined. This generated a problem worthy of research and investigation to reveal the methods used in these programs. In light of this, the issue addressed in this study can be stated as follows: What methods are used in television investigative programs to present political issues and what is their general purpose? A number of related sub-questions will also be addressed. These were divided into questions relating to the content (what was said?). And others related to the form (how was it said?). The questions related to the content (what was said?) are the following:

- 1- What type of issues does the program address?
- 2- What sources of information did the program in question rely on?
- 3- What meanings and ideas are included in the episodes of the program (research sample)?
4. What geographical locations did the issues of the program address?

Questions about the form (how was it said?)

- 1- How long did the issues take in the program in question?
- 3- What are the effects used in sound processing?
- 4- What are the image processing methods used in the program?
- 5- What shapes and templates are used in presenting the political issues raised in the program?

1.2 Significance of the study:

The importance of this study stems from the dearth of scientific studies that address the methods in which political issues are dealt with in local and Arab television investigative programs. It is hoped that this study will contribute to the relevant research base and keep pace with the modern trends that started to study the television programs. In view of the uniqueness of the subject of this study and the novelty of the problem it deals with, it is hoped that it will be a valuable scientific addition to the media library.

1.3 Research objectives:

The study seeks to achieve the following objectives:

- 1- Examining the political issues addressed by the investigative programs, particularly (The hidden is more immense) aired on Al-Jazeera.
- 2- Determining the approaches used in addressing the political issues in the television investigative programs.
- 3- Assessing the sources of information on which the program in question relied.

- 4- Determining the means of persuasion used in the program.
- 5- Establishing the meanings and ideas contained in the episodes of the program in question.
- 6- Identifying the geographical locations covered in the program's issues.

1.4 Research approach:

The analytical descriptive survey methodology is used in this study. This approach is not restricted to description, but rather is receptive to making judgment and solutions. The use of the survey methodology in media studies requires avoiding comprehensiveness, abstraction and generalization and needs careful identification of each subject (Hijab, 2006, p. 87). In order to analyse the content of the investigative program (The hidden is more intense) aired on Al-Jazeera TV, the following steps were taken:

- Delimiting the research sample covered in this study and watching it several times.
- Identifying the main and sub-categories based on the questions and objectives of the study in terms of: arranging the issues, actors, sources, geographic locations, frameworks, templates, and means of persuasion.
- Analysing and interpreting the results of the research through a form prepared for this purpose.

1.5 Content Analysis Tool:

The Content Analysis Tool is defined as a research method used by the researcher to describe the content of the message of the media objectively, quantitatively and systematically (Hijab, 2006, p. 152). The content analysis includes several processes, the most important of which is the process of defining categories, which is one of the most important analyses since it represents the actual research field (Mazahra, 2014, p. 393). In this study, I employed a content analysis form that contains the analysis categories and units, and measurement units as a tool for analysing the content of the investigative program under study. The categories of analysis were as follows:

- Content (What was said?)
- Issues: these are the various topics and issues addressed by the program used as the research sample in this study.
- Sources: This means the official and non-official entities or individuals on which the program depends in dealing with the issues in addition to experts and specialists, and eyewitnesses who provide information on the events they have witnessed.
- Personalities: the individuals involved in the issues raised in the program and around whom events are taking place.

- Geographical locations: the group of States and geographical regions covered in the program episodes as a party to the cases addressed therein.

The meanings and ideas contained in the program episodes. These include:

- The values: the values of excitement, violence, terrorism, conflict, war, and chaos.
- The position: The stance taken on the issues dealt with whether it was supportive, opposing or neutral.

Categories of form include: (How was it said?)

- Air time of issues: the air time of issues raised in the program under study.
- Audio processing: this includes general atmosphere, sound effects, the presenter's tone, music and silence.
- Image processing: graphics of all fixed and animated types, maps, graphs, documents, photographs, concealing features of speaking characters' faces, and graphic citation.
- Technical formats and templates: the shapes and templates used to address and present topics discussed in the program.
- Display techniques and persuasion: these include re-enactment of actual events (docudrama), disguise, repeating important features and using secret camera.
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1.6 Units of Analysis:

These are the units that "seek to analyse the content and fully describe its elements so that each item or category can be studied and its frequency calculated (Al-Mazahra, 2014, p. 387). Also, the meaning and characteristics of the content of the program episode text will also be deduced. The analysis units included:

Topic Unit: this was used in counting the types of issues and topics covered by the program (The hidden is more immense).

Time Unit: this was used to determine the time period adopted as a unit of measurement, including the time of each episode of the program measured in minutes and seconds.

1.7 Research sample:

In this study, the sample was selected from six episodes of the program (The hidden is more intense), which is shown on Al- Jazeera. This program was selected for several reasons. Firstly: Al-Jazeera is a model for Arab media that adopted the investigative journalism. It is the first Arab channel to deal with corruption and other issues in an investigative way. In addition, the availability of full episodes of this program on the channel's website as well as YouTube made it easier to locate the sample. The sample consisted of the series: Qatar 96 Part I, Qatar 96 Part II, the night of Piracy, Paul Barrell opens the Black Box of the Gulf files, the night of the coup – how did Turkey make its victory, and where is the body?

1.8 Research areas:

Time domain: this is the period in which the research sample was selected. This was determined from 1/3/2018 to 12/16/2018. This period was particularly chosen for its coincidence with the presentation of multiple cases in the form of a series of episodes over a period of weeks. Therefore, the repeated titles of the cases discussed in the program were avoided so that the results could be analysed and interpreted. The selection of this type of samples would be on a free basis so that this choice would achieve the desired research goal.

Thematic Domain: this is represented by methods of analysing the content of investigative television programs on Arab satellite channels. The program used in the analysis of this study is the program (What is hidden is more intense), which is shown on Al-Jazeera TV channel.

Spatial Domain: Al-Jazeera satellite channel.

2. Previous studies:

2.1 Arabic Studies:

(Al-Sanjari&Abdulrahman, 2015): this study aimed to identify the technical methods used in the production of investigative television programs. It belongs to the exploratory type of research and is the first study that reveals the technical structure of investigative television programs. The sample in the aforementioned study was selected for the purpose of analysing the content of the investigative program (Under penalty of the law), which is shown on the Lebanese Al-Jadeed channel. The study in question produced a number of results, the most prominent of which were the following:

The program used many types of technical methods suitable for investigative work. It also chose topics of ambiguity, cases of hidden corruption and illegal practices, while granting the concerned parties the right to respond. (Al-Sharafi, 2015): this study aimed to capture the reality of Palestinian investigative journalism by revealing the volume of investigations that dealt with issues worthy of research and investigation. Another aim of the aforementioned study is determining the technical methods used in carrying out those investigations and their conformity with the investigative standards. The study in question employed the survey method and content analysis in addition to drawing systematic comparisons and establishing correlational relationships. Al-Sharafi reached a number of results, the most prominent of which were the following:

There is a clear deficiency in the level of investigative work and in dealing with issues of corruption in Palestine. Moreover, there is a shortage of staff

and financial funds to support investigative work. There is also an absence of legal legislations that grant journalists the right of obtaining information and freedom of expression.

(Salman, 2016): this study aimed to uncover the issues covered by investigative reporting in websites and the most important sources and editing methods used in those investigations. The study also sought to determine the extent of using electronic publishing features (e.g interactive and multimedia). This study belongs to the descriptive research as it used the survey method and the content analysis method. It was applied to a sample of investigative reporting in websites. The study concluded with a number of results, the most prominent of which can be summarised as follows:

There is a reliance of the research sample on the reality of storytelling. Also, the investigations did not adhere to standards of investigative journalism.

(Al-Hotaibi, 2016) 11: this study aimed to determine the technical methods used in the production of investigative television programs that deal with social issues. It is a descriptive study in nature and used the survey method and the content analysis and comparison between the results. The most prominent of its results run as follows:

There is an increase in the reliance on pictures followed by the use of slides and recorded clips, while the use of graphics came in fourth place and acting scenes came last.

(Abbas, 2019): this study aimed to identify the elements of artistic construction in investigative programs, and how the image and sound are technically treated in these programs. It adopted the survey method and the method of content analysis that was applied to a sample of the episodes of the (Black Box) program on Al-Jazeera satellite channel. The study reached several results, the most prominent of which were the following:

There was a variety of introductions used in the investigative programs, and various technical templates such as the presentation template and the analytical description in line with the nature of the investigative program.

2.2 Foreign Studies:

(Regus, 1982): this study aimed to uncover the attitudes of a sample of investigative editors towards deception in gathering information and news and to assess the importance of deception in investigative editing. Regus also sought to i) discern the extent of their support or rejection of using this method in investigative journalism, ii) establish the criteria that journalists set in order to avoid the use of deception and, iii) to discern the extent to which this method is related to the ethics of the profession. This study is also descriptive in nature in which Regus used the survey method based on a questionnaire that was given to a sample consisting of (11) editors in a number of American newspapers. The study reached several results, the most prominent of which run as follows:

There was a difference in the attitude of investigative editors towards the use of deception in collecting information and news. The first group refused to use deception in any way, this formed (1) editor of the research sample. The second category, consisted of six editors who were found to support the use of deception according to specific circumstances and situations while the third category was the pragmatists (consisting of 4 editors) who were in favour of the use of deception in general.

(Smit, 2012): this study sought to determine the role of investigative journalism in detecting and combating corruption and theft of money in the European Union. In addition, the study aimed at visualizing the state of investigative journalism in the (27) member states of the European Union. The researcher relied on the survey method, and content analysis in the study. A questionnaire was used to collect data and information. This was distributed to a selective sample of 100 individuals trained on investigative Journalism at the Institute of Investigative Journalism. The study reached several results, most notably:

In Brussels, there is investigative journalism compared to the countries surveyed, at a rate of 49.7%. This is due to open communication between journalists and state officials.

There is no a specialist centre for investigative journalism in Spain until the conducting of the study.

The study confirmed that many cases of corruption have been uncovered in Spain, the most important of which is the issue of embezzlement of public funds by politicians in local and regional governments.

The benefits of previous studies as a methodological step were demonstrated in proving the current study with food for thought as well as an idea of what previous research on similar topics has reached. Moreover, a significant benefit of the studies discussed above is that they equipped us with the methods employed to define and address the research problem and thereby achieving the objectives of the research. These studies have also provided us with an idea on the literature available that can be consulted about theoretical and practical aspects of the topic. These studies also helped us in identifying the aspects that the researchers overlooked in constructing the analysis form and also identifying the main and sub-categories in order to reach new scientific results that enrich research.

3. The theoretical framework of research

3.1 Methods and forms of handling issues and topics in investigative programs:

There are limitations or some rules that journalists must take into account when dealing with topics and issues that require research and investigation regardless of the form in which they deal with the investigative material. This study is concerned with investigative television programs that deal with serious and approved content and rely on information, data, statistics

and figures. As such, it goes further to analyse and interpret the event and linking it to other events, causes and results. The following methods are more focused in addressing issues that need to be researched in depth, which can be summarised in the following points:

The existence of documents, maps and statistics represents the spirit of the investigative material to the extent that its absence represents a defect in dealing with the issue or topic. These materials constitute a great support for the information contained in the investigative programs. These materials can take the form of pictures, tables, diagrams or maps, so that journalists can communicate to the public in a clear and understandable way. Journalists must show the significance of the changes without prolongation and prejudice.

It is necessary to use simple language that the average person understands with an emphasis on using simple common words without distorting the meaning. The material may carry more than one meaning and concept and the journalist may find it difficult to define them all in the context of the text. Here, the journalist is required to choose the most important term related to the topic or issue under discussion.

Information, data and background of events are important for investigative programs, especially those of an interpretive type such as reports and reportage. The material must contain a large amount of information and the journalist should seek to investigate it and not be satisfied with what is sent by press releases that are distributed to pre-planned press conferences. If such data are made available to the journalist, she/ he tries to go beyond what was mentioned in order to answer the questions that arise in the mind of the public and identify the causes and consequences, and not to leave matters pending conclusions.

An investigative program usually contains many names of local, regional or global personalities and bodies, and some programs neglect to introduce the persons or organizations, their activities, and their geographical location. Therefore, the journalist must introduce personalities and sources no matter how well known or widespread these are. Also, specific laws, legislations, or procedures should be noted. The text of these laws and legislations must be detailed and acronyms for organizations must also be avoided even if these are too popular or known by the public.

Some journalists may be satisfied with the presence of information without attribution or concern for it coming from a living source. The presence of the source lends credibility to the material or program and brings it closer to reality and thus the viewer feels the program's interest in human stories. Also, the presence of multiple sources covering all parties involved in the case is essential and gives all the parties the right to express their views.

The priority in dealing with issues over others depends on the circumstances of each media organization in terms of its resources, capabilities and media policy. However, there are some issues that exert their importance on the media scene, so it is necessary for the media outlets to take this aspect into consideration and pay special attention to these

issues. There are specific events or phenomena in a field that may impose their importance. Therefore, there comes a need to expand their coverage and its aspects and explore its mysteries taking into account here the importance of the issue to the public. This is in order that the program and the topics it deals with are a reflection of the requirements of the public and reality.

Suggestion and sensationalism: many journalists may overlook the negative effects that appear during the implementation of the program, which are potential risks that journalists cannot anticipate. Therefore, they resort to the suggestion of potential risks. Sensationalism means the production of thrilling or controversial topics to provoke public excitement or interest in topics of e.g. power corruption. The dose of excitement can be increased by uncovering new damages resulting from variables that the public has not heard of before, such as the misapplication of certain procedures, the failure of those responsible for their implementation, or cases of rampant corruption in the state.

Journalists must ensure that the information is real not artificial and that it is dealt with in its various aspects without any slackness. They must also ensure honesty in reporting events and people without cutting out parts of the conversation or presenting it in a superficial manner.

There are some sources that are more important than others, and the most important of which are those living sources that can disclose events and changes. It is advisable that the journalist have a good relationship with these sources provided he/she should not go too far in this relationship in a way that affects her/his credibility.

Programs use some methods to present the material, influence and persuade the audience. These include:

Re-enactment of reality (docudrama): this is used in episodes where the owners of the work could not reach the original footage of the event the ambiguity of which to be clarified.

Disguise and use of secret camera (stealth): these methods are usually used when trying to obtain information that some deliberately try to conceal.

Repeating the presentation of important features with the aim of influencing the viewers and convincing them of the truthfulness of the information and the legitimacy of the issue at hand.

All forms of journalism are used in dealing with cases and investigative topics such as: the television report that is based on presenting facts and events and historical backgrounds thereof, as well as documents, data and information. There is also the investigative type of journalism that deals with problems and issues that need to be explored in depth employing dialogue to reach the specified goals. There is also the invitation of specialists to extensively address the issue at hand as well as verification of assumptions prepared in advance using relevant data and statistics and paying attention to the directive aspect and colour.

3.2 Investigative software templates and techniques:

There are many styles used in investigative television programs such as direct, influential, late, historical, and fictional styles (Abu Yusuf et al., 2011, pp. 60-61). Al- Sanjari (2015, pp. 77-78) identified the most prominent templates used in investigative TV programs.

Presentation template: this means the direct presentation of information, ideas and opinions related to the topic of the investigation, which is divided into a group of themes or sub-topics. This template is widely used and is based on the beauty of style, and the employment of conflict and paradox elements in order to highlight the truth. It is also based on smooth arrangements so that the audience can find in this presentation an illustration of what is raised in the opening.

The detailed template: this is very similar to the presentation template, except that it includes the opinion of the author of the text, so his / her personal or subjective impressions come into light to confirm the general line or the basic idea in the investigation.

Narrative template: according to this template, the texts of the parts of the investigation are formulated in the form of a story or a tale, and that each part is a story. It is necessary to formulate these parts in a way that each of them includes significant meanings of the main event.

Confession template: This template is used when there is a need for the investigator to attribute the information and opinions to its owners because of the significance and importance of this matter. This template is based on citing the living source of information. The use of this template benefits the investigative program because confession is conclusive evidence, especially if it is coming from a person of importance, or from a reliable source.

Conversation Template: this template can be employed very efficiently within investigative programs. It is formulated in the form of a conversation between two people: the first is an ordinary citizen and the second is an influential figure who practices exploitation and theft under the cover of the state.

4. Application framework of the study

4.1 Presentation and interpretation of the results of the analysis:

This section includes presenting and interpreting the results of the analysis in addition to draw implications from these results. The categories of content analysis were divided into two main categories: the subject category (what was said?), and the form in which the content was presented (how was it said?). The results of the two categories can be presented as follows:

4.1.1 Content categories (What was said?)

Category of cases: it is evident from the results displayed, one of the most prominent issues that the program focused on is the failed coup attempt against the Emir of Qatar in 1996, which came in two parts. It included accurate details about the coup attempt against the regime of Qatar that year. It also included details about the Bahraini, Emirati and Saudi direct supervision over the planning of sabotage operations and the arrest of all those involved in this failed attempt. Then, it dealt with the issue of using mercenaries from France and Chad to implement the plan to invade Qatar militarily 22 years ago. Particularly, it featured the confessions made by the French mercenary leader (Barrell) about the arrangements to recruit these mercenaries to overthrow the Qatari regime. The program episode that dealt with the issue focused on the details of the process of penetrating Qatar News Agency (QNA) accusing the UAE and Saudi Arabia of recruiting pirates to infiltrate the agency's website. There were also details on how advantage was taken of the presence of the Emir of Qatar at a graduation ceremony of a batch of recruits for national service. The program also addressed the issue of the failed coup in Turkey unveiling the parties behind the coup attempt and how it turned into a victory and popular support for the Turkish government. It also addressed the issue of the killing of the Saudi journalist Adnan Khashoggi and the disappearance of his body, which was cut off in the Saudi consulate in Turkey as many official Saudi parties accused of carrying out this operation.

Sources: the results of the this study indicate that the program relied on many sources to collect information about the issues it addressed. The experts category ranked first among the sources on which these programs depend, at a rate of (41.9%). Next came the category of official documents and publications at a percentage of (18%) while the category eyewitness who provide information about the events they witnessed came third at (14.5%). The government official category tied with the foreign expert category in the fourth place, at (9.1%). In addition, the two categories (employees) and (secret informant) both came fifth, at (3.7%). The results indicate that investigative television programs often rely on experts specializing in the issues at hand to give credibility and accuracy in the objective presentation,. This is because it stems from specialized sources, which lends credibility to the information. As for the official personalities, they constitute an important source that is authorized to comment and make decisions and as such can be used as a reference in these programs. The eyewitness category also constitutes an important source and a piece of evidence documenting events on which investigative programs depend.

Active personalities or individuals: this means the individuals involved in the issues raised in the program and around whom events revolve. These include the official authorities or personalities that the program in question relied on in its treatment of the issues. The category of formerly opposition figures ranked first with (26%) while the military official category came in second place with a percentage of (22%). The expert category and the citizen category were equal in use, at (16%) for each. Also, the two categories (government official) and (foreign expert) were also used equally and at a rate of (10%) for each . It is evident from the results that males recorded the highest percentage among the personalities hosted in

the program, reaching (66%) and ranking first compared to (34%) of the females. This is due to the fact that, due to the nature of the issues addressed by this type of programs, the percentage of males as major actors in these programs is bigger.

Geographical locations: the results of the analysis indicate that the highest percentage obtained by the geographical places covered in the program's episodes was for the State of Qatar, at (28.4%). This is due to the fact that the sampled episodes focused on the issue of the failed coup attempt on the Emir of Qatar in 1996. Likewise, it also focused on the issue of piracy of the Qatar News Agency website and the fabrication of the news attributed to the Emir of the State of Qatar. Moreover, a special episode was devoted to the French mercenary chief (Barrell) to uncover the issue of the neighboring countries' attempt to change the government in Qatar with the help of foreign mercenaries. Turkey came second at a percentage of 18.3% due to the focus of the program on the events that took place in it, including the issue of the failed coup attempt in Turkey and the issue of the mysterious disappearance of the body of the Saudi journalist Khashoggi. The UAE, Bahrain and Saudi Arabia got equal proportions of (16.9%) for each and this is due to the fact that these countries were the focus of the failed coup and the attempt of invading Qatar and the breach of the Qatar News Agency (QNA).

The position category: it means the position taken on the issues being addressed, whether it is supportive, opposing, or neutral. It can be observed that the program's episodes (The hidden is more immense) have shown a clear bias towards the media handling of Qatar's issues. The program showed the supportive position in a large percentage compared to the opposing one, and this matter was highlighted by the channel's focus on supporting the regime of the State of Qatar at the expense of the opposition, i.e. the other countries involved in the conflict. This was manifested by showing documents condemning the involvement of the countries of Saudi Arabia, UAE and Bahrain. These include samples of passports and pictures of foreign mercenaries who agreed with these countries to carry out the coup attempt in Qatar. The same applies to the case of the breach of Qatar News Agency (QNA) and the issue of the confessions of the French mercenary leader (Barrell). It was also manifested through the channel's clear bias in the case of the murder of Khashoggi and the disappearance of his body blaming the Saudi Consulate in Turkey of burning it. The imbalance in the program's handling of the research sample is evident. The opposition emerged through the issue of the failed coup in Turkey and the dangerous political and security chaos it witnessed. The rejecting position of these terrorist events, (as the program described them) was clear. The position was further highlighted by focusing on the rejection of the failed attempts by the opposition against the Turkish regime and how it transformed these attempts into unrivalled victory and popular support. As for the neutral trend, it was not demonstrated in the program while dealing with the issues raised. This means that when the program deals with the issues at hand, it uses the method of mixing emotions with ideas, mixing prejudice with facts, and

conflicts of interests with principles, thus showing a clear bias toward one party over the other.

4.1.2 Categories of form (How was it said?)

The time of cases: the results indicate that the highest percentage was obtained by the failed coup attempt against the Emir of Qatar in 1996. This amounted to (99: 90%) of the total time of cases dealt with by the program. It included accurate details about the attempted coup against the regime in Qatar in 1996. It also included details on the direct Bahraini, Emirati and Saudi supervision over planning for sabotage operations and the arrest of all those involved in this failed attempt. The other issues were equal in this respect. These issues include the use of mercenaries from France and the confessions made by the French mercenary leader Barrell about the arrangements for the recruitment of these mercenaries to overthrow the Qatari regime as well as the issue of the killing of journalist Khashoggi and the disappearance of his body, at (53.12%) each. The coup attempt against the former Emir of Qatar in 1996 (2nd part) and the details of the penetration of the Qatar News Agency "QNA" obtained close rates, as the first category reached (48.38%), while the second reached (48.29%). The case of the failed coup in Turkey got (16.51%), as it revealed the parties behind the failed coup in Turkey and how this coup turned into a victory for the Turkish government.

Image processing: this includes all kinds of graphics, maps, diagrams, documents, photographs, masking the facial features of the speaking characters, and quoting film material from the archive. It is evident from the results that (photographs) were at a percentage of (31.3%), which is higher than other image processors, while (graphics) formed (29.3%) in terms of usage. This included displaying data, maps, designs and plans for the program as determined by the requirements of the episode. The (CG) was used in all episodes to clarify the names and job addresses of the guests. This was at a rate of (19.3%) while (Quoting archival film material) got (17.5%). This can be ascribed to the nature of the issues that the program deals with, as they are issues and events that occurred some time ago. Therefore, there is no real film material available and most of the materials are borrowed from the archive. As for the category (Concealing facial features of the speaking characters), it ranked last with a percentage (2.6%), which indicates the reliance of the program on known, non-concealed sources. Therefore, this treatment was not used much.

Sound treatment: this includes the general atmosphere, the presenter's voice, music, and silence. shows that (the live sound of the general atmosphere) was the main use in the program, at a rate of (35.5%). The program depended on the natural sound surrounding the filmed event, followed by (music) at (31.5%), especially in situations where natural sounds are mixed because of its effect in such programs. As for (the voice of the presenter), which came at a rate (29.4%), it was used in the program to comment on the positions that need clarification in the episode . It was also used in conversation with the guests and asking questions, whether at the beginning of the episode or at the end of it. It should be noted here that

the program is presented by (Tamer Al-Mashal), a Palestinian journalist from Gaza. (Moments of Silence) in the program achieved (3.6%) of the sound treatment.

The breaks used in the program: the analysis showed that the program used two types of breaks to separate the axes of a single episode, namely: the moving film breaks for the most important shots in the episode with appropriate music. This was at a rate of (64.2%), and the second type is the program's logo, which is a blue background with lines in the middle as well as the name of the program (i.e. The hidden is more immense).

4.2 The methods used to address the issues presented in the investigative programs:

It appears from the results that the program used the historical approach method to a large extent as this category came first among the methods used to address the issues presented in the program, at a rate of (40.5%). This is due to the fact that the program focused in its episodes on the secrets and circumstances of historical events occurred more than twenty years ago. It narrated the stories that occurred during the coup attempts in Qatar and Turkey and the events that occurred on the night of the breach of the Qatar News Agency (QNA). The narrative style and influential method came second, at (27.1%) for each. The narrative method in presenting information, which was used to narrate the historical sequence of events from the beginning, attracts the viewer especially since the program relied on the real persons involved in the events in narrating them in detail. As for the influential method, it is one of the methods employed to attract the viewer's attention from the beginning of the topic. It focuses on an important point in the opening of the program and takes it as the core of the story's plot provided that the topic is interesting enough. This method was used in narrating the story of the assassination of the Saudi journalist Khashoggi and the disappearance of his corpse. As regards the direct approach, it came third (5.3%). In this approach, the story is presented directly like any news story.

4.2.1 Technical templates: these are the templates used to address the issues raised in the program. It is evident from the results that the conversation template, which came first (42.8%) was employed with high efficiency in the program. This was evidenced by the speech of the actors involved in the events covered by the program and their role in making the event. As for the recognition template and the detailed template both came second at (25.5%) each. This was evident in the detailed confessions made by the persons related to the issue of the 1996 coup attempt, the breach of the QNA agency, and the confessions of (Barrell): the leader of the French mercenaries. The presentation template came third, at a percentage of (5.1%), as the program used the method of direct presentation of information and opinions related to the topic of the episode. It also employed the elements of the conflict and highlighted the truth arranging the information in a smooth way. The story template came last among the technical templates used in the program, at only (1.1%).

4.2.2 Methods of persuasion: these include re-enactment of reality (docudrama), disguise, repetition of important features, and the use of a secret camera. The results showed that the method of repeating the presentation of some features is the most used method in the program. The purpose of this is influencing viewers and convincing them of the truthfulness of the information and the legitimacy of the issue at hand. This method came first (48.8%), followed by the reality re-enactment (docudrama) method at (37.4%), which is often used in the episodes for which the real footage is unavailable. As for the method of using secret camera and disguise or concealing were used equally, at a percentage of (6.9%) for each. These methods are usually used to obtain the information that some try to hide purposefully. It seems that the program used methods of stealth to a lesser extent than other methods, and this is due to the nature of the issues dealt with by the program.

4.3 General results:

It appears that the program assessed in this study used several methods in dealing with the topics and issues raised. It dealt with the content seriously and relied on information, data, statistics, numbers and live sources. It analysed the events and interpreted them while linking them to other events, causes and consequences. The category of experts ranked first among the sources on which this program relied (41.9%), while the category of official documents came second (18%). The eyewitness category came third. (14.5%).

The results indicate that the highest percentage for the geographical places covered by the program's episodes was for the State of Qatar, at (28.4%). This is attributed to the fact that the program focused in its episodes on cases that occurred in Qatar. These are the failed coup attempt on the Emir of Qatar in 1996 as well as the case of the breach of the Qatar News Agency website and fabrication of the news related to the Emir of the State of Qatar. There was also an episode devoted to the French mercenary chief (Barrell) to uncover the issue of the neighboring countries' attempt to change the government in Qatar with the help of foreign mercenaries.

The results of the analysis have shown that the highest percentage obtained in the category of the meanings and ideas included in the episodes of the program (The hidden is more immense) was for those of violence, reaching (47.4%). The international terrorism reached (25%), and those of conflict came in the third place (11.5%). The results of the research showed a clear bias for one party at the expense of the other when presenting political issues. This was clearly towards the handling of the issues of the State of Qatar, as the program showed the supportive trend in a large percentage compared to the opposing one. This matter emerged through the channel's focus on supporting the ruling regime in the State of Qatar at the expense of the opposition and the other countries being a party to the conflict. This was done by showing documents condemning the involvement of the countries of Saudi Arabia, the United Arab of Emirates and Bahrain in addition to samples of passports and pictures of foreign mercenaries who agreed to carry out the coup attempt in Qatar.

The program used all kinds of graphics: maps, diagrams, documents, photographs, masking facial features of speaking characters, and quoting film material from the archive. Photographs came first in terms of usage, at a percentage of (31.3%). As for presenting data, maps, designs and special plans, according to the requirements of the course, the use of these stood at (29.3%), while the (CG) was used to clarify the names and job addresses of the guests (19.3%). The use of quoting archived footage stood at (17.5%) and this is due to the nature of the issues covered by the program having occurred in the past with no genuine material available about them. As for the category of concealing the facial features of the speaking characters, it came last in terms of usage (2.6%). This indicates that the program relied on known, non-anonymous sources, so this method was not used extensively.

The results showed that, of all the forms and templates used to address the political issues in the research sample, the conversation template was employed with high efficiency. It came first in this regard and at a percentage of (42.8%). This was evidenced by the talk of the actors involved in the events covered by the program and their role in making the event. The confession template and the detailed template were equally used as both got the second place, at a percentage of (25.5%) for each. This was evident in the detailed confessions made by the persons involved in the case of the 1996 coup attempt, the breach of the QNA agency, and the confessions of (Barrell) the leader of the French mercenaries. As for the presentation template, it came in third place (5.1%) as the program used the method of direct presentation of information and opinions related to the topic of the episode. It also made use of conflict elements highlighting the truth seamlessly. In the last place came the story and obtained (1.1%).

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